GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2186
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2005
COVERAGE OF PDS
Sujatha Smt. C.S.

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ration card holders under the Above Poverty Line (APL) and Below Poverty Line (BPL) categories separately, State-wise;

(b) whether the Targeted Public Distribution System (PDS) deny major section of the APL card holders access to PDS due to the higher prices of foodgrains for this category;

(c) if so, whether the Government is considering to introduce the Universal Public Distribution System in place of the present Targeted Public Distribution System;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a): The number of ration card holders of Above Poverty Line (APL) and Below Poverty Line (BPL) under the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS), state-wise is annexed.

(b): No, Sir.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise.

(e): The Targetted PDS was introduced in June, 1997 with a view to target the unprivileged sections of society, as the earlier Universal PDS did not adequately focus on the hungry and had urban bias. The introduction of universal PDS may result in the PDS losing its focus on meeting the needs of the poor.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2186 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 08-08-2005 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(As on 01.08.2005)

S.No.	States/UTs	No. of Ration Cards issued (in lakhs)	
		APL	BPL (including AAY)
1	Andhra Pradesh	58.72	138.47
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2.68	0.99
3	Assam	34.63	18.91
4	Bihar	52.20	71.64
5	Chhattisgarh	25.94	19.17
6	Delhi	36.01	4.47
7	Goa	3.10	0.28
8	Gujarat	78.68	36.41
9	Haryana	36.88	8.12
10	Himachal Pradesh	10.61	2.91

11	J&K	10.94	7.36
12	Jharkhand	5.15	23.95
13	Karnataka	42.66	70.04
14	Kerala	45.69	20.43
15	Madhya Pradesh	82.27	52.05
16	Maharashtra	148.34	72.99
17	Manipur	2.41	1.66
18	Meghalaya	2.66	1.83
19	Mizoram	1.66	0.69
20	Nagaland	1.83	1.24
21	Orissa	30.61	48.95
22	Punjab	48.01	7.14
23	Rajasthan	105.23	23.14
24	Sikkim	0.89	0.43
25	Tamil Nadu	-	168.30
26	Tripura	4.30	2.95
27	Uttaranchal	16.99	4.98
28	Uttar Pradesh	274.00	106.79
29	West Bengal	113.58	47.29
30	A&N Islands	0.74	0.16
31	Chandigarh	2.19	0.08
32	D&N Haveli	0.29	0.16
33	Daman & Diu	0.25	0.05
34	Lakshdweep	0.13	0.01
35	Pondicherry	1.83	0.98
	Total	1435.63	811.49

= In Tamil Nadu there is no categorization of APL and BPL.
There are 168.30 lakh Ration Cards including 14.77 lakh AAY cards.